

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface, comprising:

a rail formed with at least two tracks,

wherein the rail is formed with a body having a proximal end, a distal end, and a hollow chamber there between,

and further wherein the rail is removably mountable on a footing grid,

and further wherein the at least two tracks include a channel extending the length of the rail;

a plurality of keepers on which to mount the rail; and

one or more clamps for connecting the system to the surface.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 1, wherein the channel in the at least two tracks is formed with a slot extending the length of the rail.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 3, wherein the slot in one of the at least two tracks is formed at substantially a right angle to the slot in any other of the at least two tracks.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more clamps is formed as a duct with at least two opposing flanges.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 6, wherein the opposing flanges of the one or more clamps are substantially parallel to one another.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a leg having a base, a descending member monolithically extending from the base, and an ascending member monolithically extending from the base in a direction substantially opposite the direction of the descending member.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more clamps include means for connecting the photovoltaic module or other flat panel device to the rail.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface, comprising:

a footing grid, wherein the footing grid includes at least one keeper;
at least one dual track rail removably mountable on the footing grid,

and further wherein the footing grid comprises means for variably positioning the at least one dual track rail on the at least one keeper; and

one or more clamps variably positionable on the dual track rail and footing grid for demountably securing the module to the footing grid,

and further wherein the at least one dual track rail includes a body having a proximal end, a distal end, a hollow chamber between the proximal end and distal end, opposing sides, and opposing shoulders

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 10, wherein the body further comprises a first channel formed in one of the opposing sides for slidably engaging the rail to the footing grid.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 13, wherein the first channel is formed with a slot extending along the longitudinal axis of the dual track rail.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 14, wherein the slot includes opposing jaws monolithically protruding from the slot substantially along the longitudinal axis of the first channel.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 15, wherein the body further comprises a second channel formed in one of the opposing shoulders for slidably engaging the rail on the one or more clamps.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 10, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a plate and monolithic opposing side walls extending substantially in the same direction at substantially right angles from the plate.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 17, wherein the opposing side walls include a lower inner edge and an upper face, and a fin extending from the upper face substantially along the longitudinal axis of the at least one dual track rail.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 16, wherein the one or more clamps includes means for variably positioning the one or more clamps in the second channel, and for positioning the at least one keeper in the first channel of the at least one dual track rail.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 10, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with at least one hole through the plate for securing the clamp on the at least one dual track rail.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 10, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a leg having a base, a descending member monolithically extending from the base, and an ascending member monolithically extending from the base in a direction opposite the descending member.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 21, wherein the ascending member further includes a projecting distally longitudinal fin extending in the direction opposite the ascending member.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 22, wherein the base is formed with at least one hole through the base.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of keepers located on a surface, comprising:

mounting removably one or more dual track rails on the plurality of keepers;
selecting a module having opposing edges;
positioning the module on the one or more dual track rails; and
securing the opposing edges of the module to the one or more dual track rails with one or more clamps.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 24, wherein the one or more dual track rails mounting step includes the substep of arranging one or more keepers into a footing grid.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 24, wherein the one or more dual track rails mounting step includes the substeps of:

selecting a body having a proximal end, and distal end, opposing sides, and opposing shoulders;

shaping the body to form in one of the opposing sides a channel extending substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the one or more dual track rails, for slidably engaging the rail on the footing grid;

further shaping the body to form a slot in the channel extending substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the one or more dual track rails; and

configuring the slot to provide opposing jaws monolithically protruding from the slot into the channel substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the first channel.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 26, wherein the one or more dual track rails mounting step also includes the substeps of:

shaping the body to form a second channel in one of the opposing shoulders for slidably engaging the rail on the footing grid;

further shaping the body to form a slot in the second channel extending substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the one or more dual track rails; and
configuring the slot to provide opposing jaws monolithically protruding from the slot into the channel substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the second channel.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 24, wherein the module positioning step includes the substeps of:

furnishing one or more clamps formed with a plate and monolithic opposing side walls extending substantially in the same direction at substantially right angles from the plate; and
configuring the opposing side walls to form a lower inner edge and an upper face, and a fin extending from the opposing side walls substantially coincident with the longitudinal axis of the one or more dual track rails.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 24, wherein the module securing step includes the substeps of:

furnishing one or more clamps formed with a leg having a base, a first side, and a second side, a leading surface and a following surface;
shaping the leg to include a descending member monolithically extending from the first side in a direction opposite the following surface;
shaping the leg to include an ascending member monolithically extending from the second side in a direction opposite the leading surface; and

further shaping the leg to provide a on the ascending member a projecting distally longitudinal fin extending from the second side in the direction opposite the ascending member.

30. (Withdrawn) A method for installing one or more devices on a plurality of footings located on a surface as recited in claim 24, wherein the module securing step includes the substep of shaping the one or more clamps for connection to the plurality of keepers located on a surface and to the one or more dual track rails.

31. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface, comprising:

a rail formed with at least two tracks,

wherein the at least two tracks include a slot formed at substantially a right angle to the slot in any other of the at least two tracks,

and further wherein the rail is formed with a body having a proximal end, a distal end, and a hollow chamber there between; and

one or more clamps for connecting the system to the surface,

wherein the one or more clamps is formed as a duct with at least two opposing flanges,

and further wherein the opposing flanges of the one or more clamps are substantially parallel to one another.

32. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 31, wherein the at least two tracks include a channel extending the length of the rail.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 31 comprising:

a rail formed with at least two tracks,

wherein the at least two tracks include a slot formed at substantially a right angle to the slot in any other of the at least two tracks,

and further wherein the rail is formed with a body having a proximal end, a distal end, and a hollow chamber there between;

and one or more clamps for connecting the system to the surface,

wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a leg having a base, a descending member monolithically extending from the base, and an ascending member monolithically extending from the base in a direction substantially opposite the direction of the descending member.

37. (Currently Amended) A system for removably and adjustably mounting a photovoltaic module or other flat panel device on a surface as recited in claim 31, wherein the one or more

clamps include means for connecting the photovoltaic module or other flat panel device to the rail.

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface, comprising:

a footing grid, wherein the footing grid includes at least one keeper;
at least one dual track rail removably mountable on the footing grid,
wherein the at least one dual track rail includes a body having a proximal end, a distal end, a hollow chamber between the proximal end and distal end, opposing sides, and opposing shoulders;

and further wherein the body further comprises a first channel formed in one of the opposing sides for slidably engaging the rail to the footing grid;

and one or more clamps variably positionable on the dual track rail and footing grid for demountably securing the module to the footing grid,

wherein the one or more clamps includes means for variably positioning the one or more clamps in the ~~hollow chamber~~ first channel, and for positioning the at least one keeper in the ~~hollow chamber~~ first channel of the at least one dual track rail.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 41~~38~~, wherein the first channel is formed with a slot extending along the longitudinal axis of the dual track rail.

43. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 42, wherein the slot includes opposing jaws monolithically protruding from the slot substantially along the longitudinal axis of the first channel.

44. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 38, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a plate and monolithic opposing side walls extending substantially in the same direction at substantially right angles from the plate.

45. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 44, wherein the opposing side walls include a lower inner edge and an upper face, and a fin extending from the upper face substantially along the longitudinal axis of the at least one dual track rail.

46. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 44, wherein the variably positioning means includes at least one hole through the plate for securing the clamp on the at least one dual track rail.

47. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 38, wherein the one or more clamps is formed with a leg having a base, a descending member monolithically extending from the base, and an ascending member monolithically extending from the base in a direction opposite the descending member.

48. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 47, wherein the ascending member further includes a projecting distally longitudinal fin extending from in the direction opposite the ascending member.

49. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for positioning a photovoltaic module or other flat panel module on a surface as recited in claim 48, wherein the base is formed with at least one hole through the base.